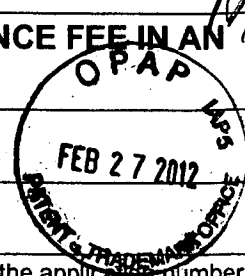


# PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378(c))

Patent Number	Issue Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Application Number	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Docket Number (if applicable)
6,367,874	2002-01-09	09/775,743	2001-04-02	n/a



**CAUTION:** Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent number and (2) the application number of the actual U.S. application leading to issuance of that patent to ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).

## SMALL ENTITY

☒ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

## LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

☐ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)

## NOT Small Entity

- | Fee                             | Code   |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| <input type="radio"/> 3 ½ year  | (1551) |
| <input type="radio"/> 7 ½ year  | (1552) |
| <input type="radio"/> 11 ½ year | (1553) |

## Small Entity

- | Fee                                       | Code   |
|---|--------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> 3 ½ year | (2551) |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> 7 ½ year | (2552) |
| <input type="radio"/> 11 ½ year           | (2553) |

## SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) (Fee Code 1558) must be paid as a condition of accepting unintentionally delayed payment of the maintenance fee.

## MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition.

## STATEMENT

THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES THAT THE DELAY IN PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE TO THIS PATENT WAS UNINTENTIONAL

PETITIONER(S) REQUEST THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED

## THIS PORTION MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE SIGNATORY OR SIGNATORIES

37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."

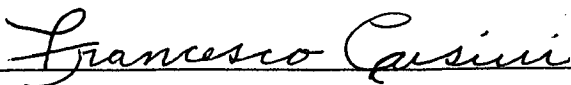
I certify, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4(d)(4) that I am

- ☐ An attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office
- ☒ A sole patentee
- ☐ A joint patentee; I certify that I am authorized to sign this submission on behalf of all the other patentees.
- ☐ A joint patentee; all of whom are signing this e-petition
- ☐ The assignee of record of the entire interest

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3625.00 OP

Sole Patentee			
A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33 and 10.18. Please see 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.			
Signature		Date (YYYY-MM-DD) 2012-02-21	2012-02-21
Name	Francesco A. Casini		
<p>This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. This form can only be used when in conjunction with EFS-Web. If this form is mailed to the USPTO, it may cause delays in reinstating the patent.</p>			

Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



**RE: Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee for  
Expired Patent No.: US 6,367,874 Multi-Functional Furniture Dated Apr. 9, 2002  
(the "Multi-Functional Furniture Patent").**

To whom it may concern:

Please accept the enclosed two checks in the amount of: (i) \$1985.00 for Maintenance Fees, and  
(ii) \$1,640.00 for surcharge (totaling \$ 3,630.00) in payment of the following maintenance fees  
and surcharge due for the Multi-Functional Furniture Patent referenced above:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Small Entity Fee Due at 3.5 years pursuant to 37 CFR 1.20(e)                               | \$ 565.00 |
| 2. Small Entity Fee Due at 7.5 years pursuant to 37 CFR 1.20(f)                               | 1,420.00  |
| 3. Surcharge After Expiration for unintentional late payment<br>pursuant to 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) | 1,640.00  |

Total: \$ 3,630.00  
(the "Payment Due")

Also enclosed with this letter are:

1. Form of Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee in an  
Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(c)); and
2. Mr. Casini's letter describing his circumstance and detrimental reliance on his belief that his  
Multi-Functional Furniture Patent was in good standing (the "Casini Letter").

### **Summary**

Mr. Casini, a 75 year old master craftsman and designer, has only a 5<sup>th</sup> grade education. Despite this lack of a formal education, he was able to obtain the Multi-Functional Furniture Patent without the benefit of legal counsel on April 9, 2002 and until December of 2011 he was not aware that maintenance fees were required or that his patent had, in fact, expired. (See Attached Casini Letter) Mr. Casini discovered the need to request reinstatement of the Multi-Functional Furniture Patent when potential investors began their due diligence regarding Mr. Casini's invention. These potential investors remain interested in exploring a business arrangement with Mr. Casini upon reinstatement of the Multi-Functional Furniture Patent.

Mr. Casini understands that pursuant to 37 CFR 1.378 the patent office is not obligated to reinstate the Multi-Functional Furniture Patent. However, we are hopeful the United States Patent Office in the interest of fairness, agrees that the reinstatement of Mr. Casini's patent is warranted. The compelling circumstances, outlined in the attached Casini Letter include that:

1. With the determination and passion he has for his Multi-Functional Furniture invention, Mr. Casini was able to obtain his patent in 2002 despite educational and circumstantial hurdles. (see attached Casini Letter);
2. In the past two years, Mr. Casini has used what little savings he had to manufacture prototypes of his invention and to otherwise reach out to secure investors; (see attached Casini Letter);

3. He has found potential investors who believe in his product, and
4. As, neither this product, nor anything similar to it, has been brought to market by anyone else, consequently, reinstating the Multi-Functional Furniture Patent would have no negative economic effect on others.

In light of the foregoing, and of Mr. Casini's sincere belief that he followed all the rules required of him, we are hopeful that the United States Patent Office will agree with our contention that the greater good is achieved by accepting the enclosed check for \$3,630 and reinstating the Multi-Functional Furniture Patent to Mr. Casini.

I have prepared this letter of transmittal at Mr Casini's request as a family friend and am also available to answer any questions should that be of assistance in making your determination. I can be reached at 303-588-4367. Mr. Casini can be reached at 718-755-6067.

Please direct all written correspondence to:

Elise Burton  
12 Eighth Avenue, Apt. 1  
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Respectfully submitted,



Elise Burton on behalf of Mr. Francesco A. Casini



Acknowledged: Francesco A. Casini



To Whom ever Reads This

I FRANCESCO CASINI INVENTOR OF Multi Use Children Furniture Pat # 6 367 874 B2 have spent The Last 16 years in getting a Patent and getting my Invention to Market.

I Followed all the Rules. First I Tried to get a Patent on my own, I Abandon my effort when I realized I Lacked a good understanding of the English Language So after saving enough I took the PTO Advice and hired a Patent Attorney (Bad choice) 4 years later and down to my final submittal, his two or three previous submittal had been denied, I called the PTO Examiner to Find out what the Progress on my Patent, Was told I was down to my final submittal which was less then Two months away and so far he had not recieved it. I asked the Examiner for help he explained he could not, as I had and Attorney he could only help me if I did not have and Attorney. Up until now all his efforts had been denied, and if his final submission was cleared I could not apply using the same application. I No Longer had Confidence in my Attorney and did not have the money to hire another Attorney nor the Trust. My discision was to send a ltr to my Attorney and a copy to the PTO Examiner Releasing my Attorney from ANY further Involvement in Pat # 6 367 874 B2 And with the help of the PTO Examiner was able to Recieved Patent to this day I can't ~~believe~~ believe I did it. I found out Later my ex Attorney had sent his Last submission IT WAS denied. When I Recieved the notice of approuale I took it out of the envelope I saw the Ribbon I did not think to Read the cover opens the booklet saw my name put it back in the envelope and put it away. Since I No Longer had and Attorney I had

Continued on next page

\* I was very worried



And when to pay it I like most people believed that once awarded, was yours for twenty years with Government protection I did not receive the notice of missed maintenance payment since I had moved from the address Oct 2004 and I have found out the PTO had sent the missed payment notice May 2006 I believe the Post Office stop forwarding after one year so I never receive the notice I never notice the one line on the cover of the Award Booklet, they should put a cover letter explaining maint, you just don't notice one line in the excitement of receiving it I am 75 years old just finishing chemo. I don't think I am going to get another chance at this. Last year I invested almost ten thousand dollars in taking my product to the Las Vegas Furniture Trade Show. So between my medical bills my product development I am just about broke All I ever wanted was to get my product to market (I have an interested investor) and leave something for my children. All I ask is fairness in your decision

Respectfully Yours

*Francesco Casini*